

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 05566 211112Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----105561 211114Z /10

O 211102Z FEB 78 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5746

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

WHITEHOUSE WASH DC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T CAIRO 05566

EXDIS (DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS)

JERUSALEM FOR USDEL ATHERTON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, XF, US

SUBJECT: ATHERTON MISSION AND REVISED EGYPTIAN DRAFT

- DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

REF: (A) STATE 44137, (B) JERUSALEM 475

1. SITUATION HERE IS IN A STATE OF UTTER CONFUSION.

ALL ATTENTION IS FOCUSSSED ON CURRENT EGYPTIAN/CYPRIOT CRISIS RESULTING FROM LARNACA INCIDENT. SADAT LEFT LAST SUNDAY FOR ISMAILIA TO BEGIN SEVENTEEN-DAY TRIP AROUND THE COUNTRY. HIS INTENDED TRAVEL FROM ISMAILIA MAY HAVE BEEN SOMEWHAT DELAYED BECAUSE OF A BAD COLD WITH WHICH HE CAME BACK FROM EUROPEAN TRIP. (HE MADE A POINT OF TELLING ME HE GOT THE COLD IN GERMANY, NOT THE U.S.) HAVE BEEN ATTEMPTING CONTACT PRESIDENCY DIRECTOR HASSAN KAMEL TO TRY TO ARRANGE FOR ME TO SEE SADAT URGENTLY, WHEREVER HE IS, BUT KAMEL APPEARS TO BE WITH THE PRESIDENT FOR THE DAY AND THERE IS NO ONE WITH AUTHORITY IN PRESIDENCY OFFICE AT THE MOMENT. VP MUBARAK HAS OR IS ABOUT

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TO LEAVE ON THREE-DAY MISSION FOR RABAT AND IS NOT AVAILABLE. FONMIN KAMEL WILL NOT RETURN FROM FRG UNTIL TOMORROW, WEDNESDAY NIGHT. ACTING FONMIN BOUTROS GHALI, WHO RETURNED AT 0130 THIS MORNING AFTER DIFFICULT MISSION TO CYPRUS AND AFTER SPENDING TWO SLEEPLESS DAYS AND NIGHTS, IS NOT AT THE OFFICE AND HAS IN ANY CASE NOT BEEN INVOLVED IN MOST RECENT DISCUSSIONS ON DRAFT DECLARATION OF

PRINCIPLES. THERE IS NO POINT GOING BACK TO MFA UNDERSEC  
USAMA AL-BAZ.

2. IN THIS CHAOTIC SITUATION, I WILL DO BEST I CAN TO  
GET TO SADAT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. (UNFORTUNATELY,  
MY PBX DOES NOT WORK TO ISMAILIA.) IT IS NOT LIKELY TO  
BE TODAY, HOWEVER, AND I CANNOT EVEN GUARANTEE THAT IT  
WILL BE TOMORROW, SINCE I GATHER SADAT IS NOT SEEING  
PEOPLE BECAUSE OF A COMBINATION OF HIS PREOCCUPATION  
WITH CYPRUS PROBLEM AND HIS COLD. IF I CANNOT GET TO  
SADAT BEFORE KAMEL GETS BACK TOMORROW NIGHT, ATHERTON  
AND I MAY HAVE TO DISCUSS THE SUBJECT WITH KAMEL ON  
THURSDAY. WILL LET ADDRESSEES KNOW SOON AS I GET SOME  
HARD INFORMATION.

3. SINCE ATHERTON IS NOT LIKELY HAVE FURTHER EGYPTIAN  
VIEWS BY TIME HE MEETS WITH DAYAN, I CAN ONLY SUGGEST  
THAT HE TRY TO FINESSE MATTER. IT MAY NOT BE A BAD IDEA  
TO LET ISRAELIS KNOW, WITHOUT GIVING DETAILS, THAT THERE  
HAS BEEN SOME REGRESSION IN EGYPTIAN POSITION BECAUSE OF  
WHAT SADAT REGARDS AS ISRAELI UNWILLINGNESS ACCEPT ASWAN  
LANGUAGE AND THAT WE ARE WORKING ON EGYPTIANS TO TRY TO  
WORK THINGS OUT.

4. FOR ATHERTON: RE REF B, DELIGHTED SEE YOU AT ANY TIME,  
BUT KAMEL IS NOT EXPECTED TO BE BACK UNTIL TOMORROW NIGHT.

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HENCE, IF YOU ARRIVE EARLY, AS SUGGESTED REF B, THERE WILL  
BE NO RESPONSIBLE EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL AVAILABLE WITH WHOM  
SUBJECT CAN BE DISCUSSED EXCEPT USAMA AL BAZ, AND I WOULD  
RECOMMEND AGAINST TAKING UP MATTER WITH HIM. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 21 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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